

Support HB 5785 An Act Concerning Home Improvement Contractors

Dear Rep. Baram, Senator Leone and members of the General Law Committee.

My name is David Grecco I live in Norwalk and have been a home improvement contractor for more than 20 years.

I am coming before you today in support of HB 5785. This bill is a common sense bill; we are the only industry that is not licensed with only a registration to become a contractor.

The guarantee fund is grossly underfunded, by doubling the fund pay out it will help to further protect consumers as \$15,000 in this day and age is not nearly enough to help homeowner become whole when damage is done to their properties.

I work on multimillion dollar homes, raising the minimum amount of insurance and making it mandatory only makes sense. If for some reason damage is created while working on a home, a person's most valuable possession, we should be insured to cover the cost of any damages caused.

Testing- every contractor should have the right to prove that they have read the requirements as set forth by the State of CT. Many contractors never even see the booklet and have no idea what is expected from them. I would support even a stricter form of testing and continuing education for contractors in the future. If I were to become a Real Estate Agent, I am required to take 60-80 hours of classes and pass a rigorous test. We are one of the few industries that require no working knowledge of the business or building codes.

I urge you to support this bill and move it to a vote in the House and Senate.

I'll be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

David Grecco
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